



**SPORTSMEN BURN MORTGAGE** — The Helderberg Rod and Gun club had a happy time Saturday night, Jan. 21. The occasion was a "mortgage burning party" at the clubhouse on Quay Road, northwest of Altamont. The club now is out of debt on its 40-acre (or more) tract of land. The group above participated in the emblematical mortgage burning. FROM LEFT: Michael Labanowicz, vice president; Robert Chesnut, financial secretary, chairman of the party, and MC; Neil Taber, president; Eugene Johnson, director; and John Orsini, director. The mortgage burning ceremony was repeated later over an outdoor fire. (Photo by Edward C. Brandow)

## ROD AND GUN CLUB BURNS MORTGAGE AFTER NINE YEARS

In the fall of 1956 the New York State Conservation department at Duff's Tavern with local people interested in forming a rod and gun club. As a result of this meeting, the Helderberg Rod and Gun Club was formed and a constitution prepared. For about two years, meetings were held at the Altamont VFW post rooms while the clubhouse on Quay Rd. (northwest of Altamont) was being built.

Now, nine years later, club members, wives and friends gathered last Saturday night at the clubhouse to witness a mortgage burning ceremony made possible by their labors.

Robert Chesnut, co-chairman and MC of the program, introduced the current club officers: President, Neil Taber; vice president, Michael Labanowicz; treasurer, Charles Kelley; financial secretary, Robert Chesnut; recording secretary, Jack Mabie; directors, John Orsini, Arthur Doty and Eugene Johnson; trustees, Fred Tifany and Frank Bruckman. Recognition of the efforts of the club's founders and active workers was given, and those present were called upon to relate some of their experiences and views. Among these were John Orsini, Millard Orsini, Michael Labanowicz, Kenneth Crewell, Howard Gage, Arthur Doty and Alfred Schager.

Mr. Schager, chairman of the trap committee, presented the club with a second place trophy won by the Helderberg trap team in the Albany County Conservation Alliance's annual trap competition.

Eugene Johnson, co-chairman and speaker of the evening, showed and discussed colored slides taken over the past nine years, depicting the building activities and social functions of the club. He emphasized that the evening and the burning ceremony were not the end of the club's efforts, but rather a turning point, with challenges ahead to make the organization a well rounded activity.

To include more use of the club's some 40 acres with recreational areas for hiking and picnics. President Taber enlightened the audience on the possible nature of future gun laws. The following is a portion of his address, stating some of his views on the necessity of rod and gun clubs:

"Of course, one of the most important reasons I believe to belong to a rod and gun club is to be heard on matters of vital interest to us all. The gun clubs, the conservation councils, and the National Rifle Association are our representatives on matters such as anti-gun laws and hunting and fishing regulations. We should belong to these clubs and support them. This year again, the lawmakers who oppose our owning guns will be trying harder than ever to pass their anti-gun bills. We must watch their efforts and keep abreast of what is going on — and write our representatives and let them know how we feel on these matters. This must be done by a rod and gun club. It is the building of this club, or we will have a need for a gun club."

The climax of the evening was the burning of a token copy of the mortgage by John Orsini, holder of the mortgage, with President Taber representing the club.

Reflexions were then served by Marge Chesnut and Rose Johnson. The remainder of the evening was spent in talking over present and old times, and of the club's future.

The organization's next event will be the annual banquet to install new club officers, and to award the annual Best Trophy. This event will be held at the Maplewood Inn, Altamont on Saturday, April 8. For reservations, contact Alfred Schager or Eugene Johnson.

**New Adult Education  
Music Course Offered**

A new adult education music course in organ playing will be offered starting Feb. 7 at the Gunderland Central High school. This is a course designed for beginners. Henry Torgas, manager of the Albany Music Center, has donated to the adult education division of the school a Kimball organ for teaching purposes. Herman Gressens of the music department will teach the class. Registration may be made by calling UN-1-8592, extension 35.

An adult education course in "Great Books" has been requested from several residents. This class, offered Wednesday evenings, will start if 12 people register before Feb. 15.

**CORRECTION**

In last week's issue, the Enterprise noted that Rev. James Hilton officiated at the funeral of Miss Margaret Westfall. It was Rev. John L. E. dePapp, of St. Mark's Lutheran church, Gunderland Central, who officiated at the service.

Farm employment in 1966 dropped nearly seven per cent.

## 'FARMER OF YEAR' IS NAMED BY THE ALBANY JAYCEES

A member of the Board of Education of Berne-Knox Central school district, Ralph D. Miller, was honored Saturday as the outstanding young farmer in Albany county. The Albany Junior Chamber of Commerce made an award to Mr. Miller at its annual "young farmer" luncheon at the Inn Town Motel.

Mr. Miller, his wife and family currently reside on a sprawling 400-acre dairy farm in East Berne. He received a degree in agriculture upon graduation from Cornell University in 1960. After graduation, he served in the Armed Forces, after which in 1961 he began his full-fledged career in farming and agriculture. In partnership with his father, Hubert Miller, he operates a highly successful farm. In the past several years, his farm has become a leader in area dairy production.



RALPH D. MILLER

and can currently claim approximately 90 milking cows. An aggressive leader in the community, Mr. Miller is an official of various farm organizations and is active in local church affairs. His affiliations include:

Leader, 4-H; formerly assistant steward, Grange; director, ADAPC of Capital District, president, 1986-87, of Hudson-Mohawk Independent Milk Producers Corporation, Inc.; president, 1966-67, of Albany County DHIC; member of Berne-Knox Central Board of Education; member of New York and National Holstein club; town chairman, ASC committee; former deacon (1961-64) of St. Paul's Lutheran church, East Berne.

A prominent and worthy local figure, the Albany Jaycees consider Mr. Miller an outstanding young man and leading farmer.

Harry Appel, chief of the information service of the State Department of Agriculture and Markets, spoke at the "bruncheon."

Louis Jeffrey, former president of the Albany Jaycees and former executive secretary of the State Jaycees, acted as toastmaster.

**Events to Come**  
Churches, Schools, Fraternal, and Other Organizations

**VALENTINE DANCE JAN. 28**  
Columbiettes Auxiliary and the Knights of Columbus will hold a Valentine dance Jan. 28 at American Legion hall, Altamont. Music by Gordon Hilton and his orchestra from 9 p. m. to 1:30 a. m. Tickets may be purchased at the door or from members.

**DISCUSSION — JANUARY 31**  
A "Reading Readiness" discussion will be held for parents of pre-school children on Tuesday, January 31, at 8 p. m. at the Berne-Knox Elementary school cafeteria. Speaker for the meeting will be Mrs. Shirley Doucet.

**CARD PARTY FEB. 4**  
Card party at the Grange hall, Berne, for benefit of Heart Fund, Saturday, Feb. 4, at 8 p. m. Public invited.

**WORLD DAY OF PRAYER SERVICE FEB. 10**  
A World Day of Prayer service, sponsored by the Helderberg Council of United Church Women, will be held Friday evening, Feb. 10, in St. John's Lutheran church, Altamont.

**MARDI GRAS FEB. 11**  
A Mardi Gras party, sponsored by Voorheesville American Legion Auxiliary, will be held Feb. 11 in Voorheesville Legion hall.

**CHICKEN SUPPER FEB. 18**  
A chicken and biscuit dinner, sponsored by the Methodist Men of Trinity Methodist church, Coeymans Hollow, will be served Feb. 18 from 5 to 7:30 p. m.

**BLUE AND GOLD DINNER FEB. 18**  
Saturday, Feb. 18, Cub Scout Pack 73 will hold its blue and gold dinner at Legion hall, Voorheesville.

**HAM SUPPER FEB. 25**  
The Dutch Arms Club of Helderberg Reformed church, Gunderland Central, will serve a ham supper Feb. 25. (Continued on Page 6)



**'APPRECIATION DINNER'** — Twenty-seven Altamont business men assembled at the Maplewood Inn last Wednesday night at a dinner for a fellow business man. The guest of honor was Donald A. Greenwood, who has been manager of the Altamont branch of National Commercial Bank & Trust Company for several years. Mr. Greenwood has been assigned to the Branch Coordination department at the bank's main office in Albany. In the photo above, Mr. Greenwood, at right, and his successor at the Altamont office, Homer L. Warner of East Berne, exchange their best wishes. The business men's parting gift to Mr. Greenwood was presented by Postmaster Merlin W. Osterhout (at left). The gift, incidentally was a "C-note," which, in everyday-day language, means 100 bucks. (Photo by Edward C. Brandow)

## LYNNWOOD SCHOOL WILL BE DEDICATED ON SUNDAY, JAN. 29

The Lynnwood Elementary school in the Gunderland Central school district will be dedicated on Sunday, with the ceremony scheduled to begin at 2 p. m. The school, which was opened last fall, will be available for inspection between the hours of 3 and 5 p. m., with refreshments being served. All residents of the school district are invited to attend the formal ceremony and anyone unable to attend the 2 p. m. session is invited to tour the building following the dedication.

The main speaker will be R. Pratt Krull, administrative assistant to the commissioner of education. Mr. Krull is a resident of Gunderland, residing at 332 Highland Dr., Schenectady, and has children attending the Lynnwood school.

Beginning the 2 p. m. ceremony will be an invocation by Rev. Gerard J. VanHeest, pastor of the Lynnwood Reformed church. The Pledge of Allegiance to the Flag will be led by Cyrus Veaser, president of the Lynnwood Student Council.

Presentation of the building will be made by W. Parker Dodge, architect who was the architect for the building; and the building will be received on behalf of the district by Burton J. Carman, president of the Board of Education.

Mrs. Isobel Arnold of the Veterans of Foreign Wars' Ladies Auxiliary of Altamont will present an American flag to the school, and Carl J. Walters, supervisor of the Town of Gunderland, will present the Town Seal. Both of these will be accepted by George O'Hare, principal.

The benediction will be given by Rev. Peter F. Sheeran, pastor of the Church of Saint Madeleine Sophie.

Then there was the young man buying his Christmas cards who asked for something sentimental. The saleslady showed him one that read, "Merry Christmas to the Only Girl I Ever Loved." He bought six of them! — Kiwanis Magazine.

## 2nd Information Meet Planned By County FB

Apparently pleased with the fine turnout and keen interest displayed in the recent information meeting held by Albany County Farm Bureau at Clarksville Community church hall, the board of directors has authorized President Harry Garry to arrange for another.

As brought out by Director Fred Slesal of Colone, there is a definite need for area farmers to be brought up to date on latest developments concerning the employment of farm help, compensation coverage, etc. Present plans call for setting up a meeting covering this area of agriculture some time late in February.

Membership chairman Walter Dunn reported that the 1987 membership campaign was going along on schedule.

Following a discussion on problems being encountered by farmers resulting from present regulations and inspection procedures governing the slaughtering of animals, the directors empowered President Garry to enlist the help of the presidents of Greene and Washington county Farm Bureaus to look into the situation and confer with the officials of the New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets.

**Christman To Speak  
At N. Y. City Meeting**

Lansing Christman, Schenectady county historian, will be one of the speakers at the annual meeting of the State Association of Towns to be held in New York City Feb. 6-8 at the Hotel Roosevelt.

Christman, attending the conference at the invitation of the state historian, will speak at the 9 a. m. session Feb. 7 and will be joined by Dr. Louis L. Tucker, assistant commissioner for state history, and Manville B. Wakefield, Sullivan county historian.

His topic will deal with some of the features and changes in the state's natural environment — covering such phases as air and water pollution, destruction of bird life through sprays, removal of natural nesting grounds and disregard for the preservation of

## Town of Westerlo Fire Co. To Buy New Apparatus

At a special meeting the Town of Westerlo Volunteer Fire Company awarded a contract to the Haban Motor Co. of Hamburg, Pa., to build a piece of apparatus for the South Westerlo district. Built on a C950 Ford chassis, with a 750 GPM midship Hale pump, a 750 gallon booster tank with all miscellaneous equipment, 2 1/2-inch and 1 1/2-inch hose, and three Hannay electric hose reels. This equipment in the South Westerlo area, the company feels, will be a real boost to the community. Late summer delivery is expected.

## March of Dimes Drive Set To End On Jan. 31

The month-long drive for funds in the crusade against birth defects will officially end Jan. 31, but said Thomas J. McEnaney, March of Dimes Chapter chairman, "It will take several weeks to receive and tabulate the collections."

The goal of \$85,000 this year is urgent; if progress is to continue in expanding the network of treatment centers and the extensive research programs, and at the same time provide aid for over 12,000 polio patients of the past.

Individuals, organizations and business firms are urged to help by sending in contributions to county headquarters, 179 North Main Ave., Albany, 12206. Make checks or money orders payable to The March of Dimes. All contributions received at headquarters are acknowledged, which is customary, and those who send in \$25 or more become members of The Humanitarian Club and are awarded special bonds.

The crusade against birth defects is recognized as top priority in the nation. Everyone can participate in this expansion program this year.

the beauty and charm of natural resources.

Christman is also a trustee of the Schenectady County Historical society and public relations consultant for St. Clare's hospital.

## Area Boys To Appear On Cerebral Palsy Telethon

A band known as the Tagalongs will perform on the Cerebral Palsy Telethon Jan. 29 in the early morning. Friends are urged to watch.

The band includes Bruce Filkins, organ; Howard Crawford, lead guitar; Roy Jones, drums, from East Berne, and Corky Reed, rhythm guitar, from Middleburgh. The band is managed by Cecil Reed and Jerry Filkins. Anyone interested in the band for a dance, contact Cecil Reed in Middleburgh, VA 7-6307.

## World Day of Prayer Service Set Feb. 10th

Observed each year on the first Friday of Lent, World Day of Prayer services will be held at St. John's Lutheran church in Altamont on Feb. 10. It is sponsored in this area by the Helderberg Council of United Church Women and is open to all interested persons.

The service being used this year was written by Queen Salote of the Tonga Islands in the South Pacific before her death in late 1965. Her theme and the service reflect her dignity and strong Christian faith. For many years, Queen Salote led her people in the first services of the World Day of Prayer. This observance in the Tongas is followed by thousands more in over 125 countries around the world until the day ends with services in the Aleutian Islands off Alaska.

The theme, "Of His Kingdom There Shall Be No End," will be interpreted in our local service by Rev. S. Bowen Hawkins of Voorheesville.

Mrs. Verne Osterhout, chairman for the day's observance, has enlisted the help of women from the area churches. The offering taken will be used for specific missionary projects. Plan to invite your neighbor and attend this service.

## Shareholders To Meet

The annual shareholders' meeting of National Commercial Bank and Trust company will be held in the Heartland office of the bank at 40 Beaver St., Albany, at 2 p. m. Friday, Feb. 3.



**INSTALL KIWANIS OFFICERS** — The Kiwanis Club of the Helderbergs, meeting at Rest Seekers Inn, East Berne, on Jan. 11, installed its officers for 1987. FROM LEFT: Albert F. Putzig, president; Robert Fowler, lieutenant governor of the Capital Division of Kiwanis, installing officer; Harold Wallace, Berne, first vice president; George Van Etten, Knox, retiring president. (Note: Mr. Putzig is from Berne — omitted from description above).